

# Sermon Study Guide –

## 1 Peter 5:1-4

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Week of July 3, 2022

Title: **“The Under-Shepherds”**

**Sermon Idea:** Follow the lead of a Jesus-following under-shepherd.

### Key Points:

Elders are to faithfully under-shepherd God’s people by being...

1. Enthusiastic about the privilege of shepherding.
2. More concerned for the flock than themselves.
3. Good examples of full devotion to Jesus.
4. Motivated by eternal, not earthly, glory.

**What do I want people to know?** I want people to know that elders are appointed by God to lead God’s people in humility and for the joy of serving Jesus. Believers are to submit to godly elders and support them.

**What do I want people to do?** I want people to (1) check their motives for serving, (2) support their elders, (3) honor those who serve well.

**What need am I addressing?** I am addressing the need for the church to remain strong by having humble leadership.

**Recommended Resources:** *“Spiritual Leadership,”* J. Oswald Sanders; *“Lead Like Jesus,”* Ken Blanchard

**Intro:** Have you ever heard or been part of an abusive church with a toxic culture? Explain.

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### Dig:

**Day 1: 1 Peter 5:1-4** exhorts elders to shepherd the sheep of God. What three contrasts are used by Peter to motivate their service?

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**Day 2: 1 Timothy 3:1-7** list some qualifications for eldership. List them out. How would you group the traits? Why are these ones so important for eldership?

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**Day 3: John 21:15-19** recounts Jesus’ reinstatement of Peter to ministry. What main lessons does Jesus seek to teach Peter through this episode?

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**Day 4: Mark 10:42-45** contains Jesus’ teaching about how we are to serve Him. What contrast does He bring out? How does this play out in the church? What does leadership look like?

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**Day 5: 1 Timothy 5:17-20** include several directions for how the church should treat elders. What are they? How can elders be honored practically?

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### Apply:

- In prayer, ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart regarding your motives for serving. If they aren’t pure, repent and ask for a renewed heart of humble service.
- Pray regularly for your elders asking God to give them wisdom and strength.
- Write a note of encouragement to an elder and share with them your appreciation.

**Pray:** Lord Jesus, thank You for raising up under-shepherds who take care of Your flock. Encourage them and help them to stay close to You. Give them wisdom as they lead and bless them. In Jesus’ name, amen.

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